THE BUN, New York city. Pants-Kiosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and

Riceque No. 10, Boulevarde des Capucines. If our friends who favor us with manual on wish to have rejected articles returned, they nucl in all cases send stamps for that purpose,

Our Store of Money.

If the British need of cash, arising from the war in South Africa, should cause this country to export gold, a look at the state of the currency as it is described in the recent official reports from Washington will show how amply we are stocked with money to spare.

To-day the total sum of money available for circulation is more than two billion dollars. Estimating our population to be eighty millions, the high-water mark of calculation, we believe, we have more than twenty-five dollars per head.

We have more money than we ever had. We have more money in proportion to population than we ever had.

If we should reduce the amount of circulation per capita to twenty-two dollars, we should still have far more than is needed for the comfortable conduct of business. And we should have two hundred and fifty millions for export, a far greater sum than the requirements of any European Government could wring from us under the existing state of trade.

Our silverite friends have been accustomed to howl at the incursions into this country of British gold. Would they have any objections to a flood of American gold deluging the marts of Great Britain?

The Rising Wave of Expansion in the South.

We spoke recently of the fact that even darkest Arkansas was beginning to see the light of expansion and that Governor DANTEL W. JONES, who wishes to be elected a 'Senator in Congress, has declared himself in favor of American possession of the Philippines. The Arkansas Gazette of Little Rock, long the most authoritative voice of the Arkansas Democracy, seconds the Governor's motion warmly and asserts that his views as to the retention of the Philippines and the commercial necessity of the Asiatic trade to the South "are in line with those of the business men of this section, who believe that the South will be more benefited than any other portion of the country by the United States holding on to the sovereignty of the islands." After reciting that most Southern commercial bodies that have had meetings during the last year have passed resolutions in favor of expansion and an export trade of the cotton States with the East, and that not only Southern business men but some prominent Southern statesmen have approved that policy, our contemporary continues: "The South is no longer blind to its own interests

and when public sentiment is fully developed it will be found that this section is pronouncedly in favor of retaining the Philippines and all other newly sequired territory in the Pacific."

There are still many crossroads hunkers and blind Bryanites in the South who kick against expansion because it happens to be supported by Republicans; but the business brains of the South, the stirring, modern and go-ahead parts of it, know that its best hope is expansion and new markets. From the economic point of view, expansion will be profitable and is indeed indispensable to the South. From the political point of view, expansion continues the traditional policy of the Democratic party.

In face of the rising waves of expansion sentiment in the South Dame PARTINGTON BRYAN, with that poor little mop of antiimperialism, makes a figure at which only the polite can refrain from guffawing.

Decentralization in the Philippines

The more one studies the history of the Philippines, the more judicious seems the President's suggestion that a decentralizing principle should be applied in the plan of government to be framed ultimately for the islands.

It will be remembered that in his Message Mr. McKINLEY, after pointing out that the complete suppression of the insur rection should precede the formation of any definite administrative scheme, declared that he could see no reason why steps should not be taken meanwhile to inaugurate local governments essentially popular, as fast as territory should be held and controlled by our troops. He went on to express the belief that reconstruction should not begin by the establishment of one central, civil government for all the islands with its seat at Manila, but rather that the work should be built up from the bottom, municipal governments being first established and then provincial governments, while a central government should be created last, if at all. In other words, he advocates a decentralizing policy, and there is no doubt that ethnological, philogical and historical considerations may be adduced on its behalf. Leaving out the Negritos, or aboriginal denizens of the archipelago, and the Igorrotes, a name applied to the pagan mountain tribes of Luzon, the inhabitants of the Philippines may be divided broadly into the Tagale, concentrated in Luzon; the Visayas, who occupy all the islands to the south of Luzon and north of Mindanao; and the Mohammedan Malays, who constitute the most powerful section of the inhabitants of the last-named island. As a matter of fact, no fewer than thirty languages are recognized officially. Of these we need consider only two, namely, Visaya and Tagalog; in 1865 it was estimated that Visaya was spoken by upward of 2,000,000 persons, and Tagalog by 1,300,000. At the present day, the figures must be enlarged in each case, but the proportion is, apparently, about the same.

On the face of things, the island of Luzon should have a separate government, and the native tongue officially recognized by the side of the English and Spanish lan guages should be the Tagalog. Quite as deserving of a separate local government as are the Tagals, are the Visayas, who inhabit Samar, Leyte, Bohol, Cebu, Negros, Panay, Mindoro, Mashate and several smaller islands. Unlike the Tagals, who were still barbarous at the date of the arrival of the Spanlards, the Visayas had already attained a considerable degree of civilization; partly for that reason, and partly because the Islamic propaganda had not yet reached the archipelago, they readily accepted Christianity, and assisted the Spaniards in the sub-

the first Spanish capital. The Visayas have always shown themselves relatively doctle and gentle, and the only resistance which our soldiers have encountered in their islands has been fomented by Tagal emissaries. Taken together, the Visayan Islands have an area of about twentyfive thousand square miles, and would constitute a homogeneous and easily governed Territory. The outlying island of Palawan, on the other hand, which contained only a few Spanish posts, and the great island of Mindanao, most of which was never even explored by the Spaniards who occupied only a few ports on the western coast, would have to be treated very much as we were compelled to treat Alaska for many years after the ac-

quisition of that region. It may well be, not only that the Philippines should be distributed in three or four groups for administrative purposes, but that a much greater division and localization of executive power might be expedient. That is a matter which should be determined by competent observers of local conditions, and, to that end, it is to be hoped that the President will carry out the purpose, mentioned in his message, of sending back to the Philippines the commission previously appointed, or such of the members as can be secured, to aid the military authorities in the work of investigation and thus facilitate the establishment of local governments throughout the archipelago.

Not Democrats but Republicans.

The reported intention of certain Congressmen elected from New York as Democrats, to defy their party by voting for the Republican Currency bill, is inducing much political philosophizing in newspapers sympathizing with their sentiments, which is neither pertinent nor reasonable.

They are Congressmen who were elected in 1898, in spite of their refusal to say whether they were for gold or silver, but as they were candidates put up by the Tammany organization after it had formally declared its cordial support of the leadership of Mr. BRYAN, it might be assumed reasonably by the Democratic caucus of Congress that they were thus honorably committed to the doctrine of the party on the subject; in other words, that they were not elected, and could not have been elected, as gold Democrats, but only as Democrats sustaining their party's position on the subtect. If they revolt now, they may be accused, very properly, of having been guilty of false pretences at the election in 1898. And, unquestionably, honorable obligation required that they should speak out then, instead of waiting until after they had been elected and the Congress had actually assembled.

Into that question of political ethics it is not our intention farther to enter. Another question, however, may pertinently be considered by us. It is whether those New York Congressmen, being resolutely for the existing gold standard, can consistently remain in the Democratic party or be allowed to remain in it when it is not less resolute for the overthrow of the gold standard by the substitution of free coinage at 16 to 1. On the main issue between the two parties they are Republicans and not Democrats; McKIN-LEY is their leader and not BRYAN. If they vote for the Republican Currency bill in this Congress they must vote for Mr. McKINLEY next year, unless they are unprincipled men, because the Democratic party, under the leadership of BRYAN, will be in violent opposition to it.

Obviously, it is impossible for a man of any principle, for a man who is entitled to any respect either from himself or anybody else, to continue in support of a party which in its main issue and its overwhelming sentiment is radically opposed to his convictions as to a policy essential to the welfare of his country. Of course, a man who is for gold stultifies himself in sustaining a party which is for silver. He makes himself contemptible.

If, then, this report is true that Congressto revolt against the Democratic party in this Congress they will necessarily cut themselves off from that party in the coming Presidential campaign, and not less necessarily they will be compelled as honest men to support the Republican party. Their few individual votes may be cast for the Republican Currency bill, but outside of them the whole body of Democrats in Congress will be counted against it solidly, and thus the issue between the two parties will be emphasized the more in the campaign of next year.

A Lake Erie Dam.

The project of building a great dam across the Niagara River where it issues from Lake Erie will be brought prominently before the country by the coming report of the Deep Waterways Commission and by Representative Corliss's bill in Congress to authorize its construction. It was known some time ago that the Commission had decided to recommend the project as the most practicable and economical means of increasing the depth of water in the

channels connecting the great lakes. The chief problem in our lake navigation has been to maintain a sufficient depth of water in the channels to meet the demands of shipping. Lake vessels have been increasing steadily in size and in draft. The rapid growth of the iron ore, lumber and grain shipping interests has resulted this year in contracts for building new vessels, some of which will have larger tonnage than any now affeat on the lakes. Leading men in the shipping business say that these vessels, if fully loaded, will not be able to pass through some parts of the channels

in their present condition. The policy, heretofore, has been to deepen these channels by dredging. Millions of dollars have been spent in this work and millions more will be necessary if dredging alone is depended upon to keep the St. Clair River and ship canal and the Detroit River deep enough for the needs of navigation. This year vessels have been delayed at times for hours in the Detroit River and these delays have been unusually frequent because the large amount of freight offered has tempted owners to load the steamers to their utmost capacity. Two hundred vessels, carrying 300,000 tons of ore, 12,000,000 feet of lumber and nearly a million bushels of wheat, were recently blocked for days by the sinking of a steamer in the channel of the St. Mary's River. After their release many of them met with another vexatious delay in the

Detroit River. The investigations of the Deep Waterways Commission have convinced its members that the best way to obtain a considerable part, if not all, of the depth required in the channels will be to throw a dam across the outlet of Lake Erie. The Commission has already expressed the view that by means of this dam the level of Lake Erie will be raised three feet, that of Lake

one foot. Improvements completed four years ago enabled vessels drawing twenty-

one feet to pass from Buffalo to Duluth. Another great advantage will also be secured. A large part of the money annually expended for lake harbor im provements is devoted to dredging the harbors; by raising the lake levels the depth of water in the harbors will be correspondingly increased. The recommendation of the Commission is submitted as a practicable and a money-saving project that will be of great benefit to the immense commercial interests using the lakes as a highway for traffic.

The Premium on Gold Bars.

A very sensible recommendation is made by Director of the Mint ROBERTS, in his annual report just published. It relates to the sale, by the Treasury, of gold bars, and proposes a useful and necessary return to a practice which formerly prevailed, but which, for a few years past, has been discontinued. By the act of May 26, 1882, the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to give without charge gold bars in exchange for gold coin of equal bullion value. Under this act the gold required for export was taken by the shippers of it in the form of bars, because, when the bars got to the other side of the ocean and were melted down, there was less loss on them than there was on coin, which was, often, somewhat worn by use. The Director of the Mint in 1890, however, conceived the silly idea that this accommodation to shippers, although it involved no loss to the Treasury, but, on the contrary, saved it the labor and expense of turning the bars into coin, afforded an undue facility for ending gold out of the country, and, at his instance, Congress, in March, 1891, authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to impose upon gold bars given in exchange for gold coin, a charge equal, in his judgment, to the cost of manufacturing the bars. This charge, the Secretary at first fixed at 4 cents per \$100, and since then it has been raised to 10 cents per \$100, which is practically prohibitory.

The prohibition has been powerless to stop exports of gold, and the only effect of it has een to put the Government to the expense of changing the gold, which otherwise would have been furnished in the shape of bars, into the shape of coin, which it could not refuse to pay out without any charge at all. The present Director of the Mint sees the folly of this policy. He says:

There is no object in forcing the public to take our coin out of the country by making it more ex-pensive to take bars. We had better furnish the raw naterial than the manufactured article. These bars will have to be shipped from New York to Phila delphia, melted and worked into coin at some waste and considerable expense to replace the corn exorted, while the bars would have served every purpose for export. The export charge was put on bars several years ago, when gold exports were neavy and some means to discourage them was ought. When the current coin is abraded, exporters will pay a slight premium to get bars, which are full weight, but our current gold coin is now largely new and on the average close to standard, and excorters are preferring to ship it rather than to pe

While Congress is busy with the subject of currency reform, it may as well reform the abuse which Mr. ROBERTS points out.

The Navy and the Country.

The Washington Times was not, as we have the impression the Washington Post was privy to the fraud attempted by Rear Admiral SCHLEY in the matter of the Hodgson correspondence; but it has stood by SCHLEY regardless of the record, all the same. It now advances the theory that Sampson was never the Commander of the Atlantic fleet, that the giving to him of authority superior to SCHLEY'S was actually in violation of the law, and therefore void. "At the time of the engagement," says the Times, "Sampson's legal status was that of a supernumerary Captain acting with the North Atlantic squadron under the command of Commo dore SCHLEY."

The continued official denial of justice to Rear Admiral Sampson, the commander of the fleet at Santiago, and the degradomen elected in New York as Democrats are tion of the Naval service involved in the toleration of an officer-Schley-whos utter unfitness for command and whose guilt of faisehood is written clear upon the Governmental records, suggest this unpleasant query:

How can the United States Navy maintain for long its traditional prestige in the protection of the country, if the country will not protect it against the bumiliation of seeing craven-heartedness and dishonor in its ranks go unrebuked?

While a vigorous effort is making in Conress to fix the highest and best standard for the currency the lowest standards are being fastened on the Navy-upon the Navy of America, of all countries of the world.

Westward the course of Andrews takes its way. Dr. ELISHA BENJAMIN ANDREWS dvanced from Providence to Chicago, carrying with him his favorite notions, free silver fo men and free lunch for school children. It is said that he is now preparing to advance from Hilmols to Nebraska. At his present rate of progress he will be in the heart of China before long; and then there will be a thundering crash of crockery. A stirrer and a ripper is the Doctor, and no mistake.

A very sensible bill was that introduced in the House of Representatives on Monday by Mr. Bull of Rhode Island, limiting penses of funerals of Members of the House to a thousand dollars. A particularly commend-able bill was that of Mr. Gibson of Tennessee, awarding a special medal to each of the "volunteer and regular soldiers and officers who volintarily remained on duty in the Philippines after their terms of enlistment or appointment nad expired."

Well, can anybody be surer than Col. Bayan is? He is sure that he is going to be elected. He is sure that the country is crazy for his old issues and his new issues. The Colonel is more than sure enough; he is several million diameters too sure.

We print on another page a statement by a competent authority of the facts concerning the proposed grant of land under water to the Astoria Light, Heat and Power Company, which we commend to sober-minded people desiring information on the subject.

What is said there is not denied, we believe anywhere, nor, in our opinion, is it deniable hat sound business and fair dealing require that the Astoria Company be permitted to acquire the title it desires, and at a rate which shall be reasonable, instead of extortionate.

In vain the Hon. JOHN JACOB LENTZ of Ohio celebrates AGUINALDO and the Idaho rioters. It has been determined by the Democratic bosses in his Congress district that be shall not have another term in the House of Representatives. Youth, genius, fire and undying sympathy for rebels against the law are thus rewarded! The Hon. John Jacob Lentz is to be the victim of an unrequited attachment to public life.

We are informed, in reference to an editorial in THE SUN of last Saturday on "Our Expanding Commerce," that in the first jugation of the Tagaia. Cabu was St. Clair two feet and that of Lake Huron | edition of the President's Message, on which

our remarks were based, there had been an omission of a line of statistics. The mistake

was rectified in a second print.

Instead of asserting that "our exports for 1850 exceeded the exports and imports for 1870 by more than a billion dollars," it should "Our imports and exports for 1899 exceeded by more than a billion dollars our exports and imports in 1870, and our exports alone in 1888) exceeded by more than four hundred million dollars our exports and im-

There are a few of us who treasure reverently Gen. JIM WEAVER of Iowa and will not let themselves forget that he was a candidate for President. He deserves to be treasured. The storage charges of Memory are more than repaid by finding him in the bloom of hope and expecting to "see the united Democracy, with Buyan at its head, sweep the country." What enthusiasm the Democratic prospects cause in some politicians who have none of their own!

UNCERTAINTY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN

SITUATION. What further light is thrown on the affair at Stormberg on Sunday morning reveals a singular lack of information at Gen. Gatacre's headquarters of the topography of the country in which he had to act. The whole result de pended practically, according to Gen. Gatacre's statement, on the one policeman who marched the force about from half past on Saturday night until 4 o'clock on Sunday morning, and then landed it in an impossible position where it was raked on all sides by the enemy's rifle and artillery without a possibility of replying. Gen. Gatacre himself acknowledges that both himself and the local guides underestimated the distance to be traversed, an error that of course vitiated all the calculations based on the mistaken estimate. This is a most extraordinary confession and suggests incompetency in some branch of Gen. Gatacre's staff. Some comfor may be derived from the statement of the General that he did not consider the error intentional, but that is nothing to the point in the consequences which may flow from it. The total losses of the British are 672 officers and men and 2 guns, the Boers say 3. Of these it is believed that about 175 fell in the fight before surrendering.

Gen. Gatacre's last report described him as holding Bushman's Hock and Cyphergat on the north side of the Stormberg Mountains. after having sent the remains of the two battalions that suffered so heavily in the fight to Sterkstroom junction for rest. The licer official despatch on the affair puts the number of prisoners in their hands at 9 officers and 480 non-commissioned officers and men.

The absence of definite news of the Kimberley relief column and Gen. French's command. as well as Gen Gatacre's, since early on Mon day, cannot be entirely explained by the reported interruption to the western cable, as the east coast line is in working order. Either therefore, their telegraphic communications are interrupted, or the British War Office is withholding news in the hope of some counterstroke of fortune on the part of Gen. Methuen or Gen. Buller.

Of the former all that is made known is that heavy cannonading was heard on Monday in the direction of the Modder River, but whether there had been an attack by one side or the other is not stated, nor what was the result. The Boer commander, Cronic, reports fighting at the Modder River on Sunday night, in which he maintained his position and captured some fifty British prisoners. The Boers were also reported annoying the right flank of Gen. Methuen's force and his communications at Gras Pan. There are reports likewise of commandos operating from the westward, supposedly coming from Grique Town by way of Douglas, near the junction of ie Vaal and the Orange rivers.

In Natal the opposing forces are reported to in touch, but the forward movement so long anticipated has apparently not yet begun. A rumor that the bridge at Washbank had been damaged, has led to the inference that a British force had crept up in some way unperceived by the Boers, and succeeded in reaching that locality. On the face of it the thing is improbable, and the report may also apply to a Washbank not far from Dordrecht in Cape Colony, in which direction Gen. Gatacre had sent a force under Col. Daigetty just before starting for Stormberg, the Boers having a commande of some eight hundred men in the neighbor-

The small relieving force from Rhodesia trying to reach Mafeking is said to have reached Gaberones ten days ago, and to have found it evacuated by the Boers, who had gone south. There is a long distance, however, ome ten miles of track between Ans Vogel Kor and Lobatsi to be relaid before they can reach their objective by rail. The garrison meanwhile is on short rations.

Another sortle is reported from Ladysmith for the purpose of destroying one of the Boor guns commanding the town. The gun was rendered useless with guncotton, the sortie party of 500 men reaching the position unoposed. On the return it had to fight its way through the Boers who had assembled too late to save the gun, and lost 4 officers and 52 men killed and wounded, and 6 made prisoners. As Lombard's Kop, the Boers appear to have been caught sleeping.

A British Colonist's View,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sire In THE Sun of this day's date you comment on the views expressed by the Hon. James Brice, M. P., as recorded in a recent issue of the North American Review, Inter alia Mr. Bryce denounced the annexation of the Transvaal to the British Crown by Sir T. Shepston, in 1877. as a high-handed and unwarrantable proceeding." The facts are as follows:

In July of 1877, the contents of the Treasury at Pretoria amounted exactly to \$4.75. At that time the Zulus to the number of 40,000 were on the Transvasi border threatening the country with destruction. At the request of leading public men in the Transvaal, the British Resident is sued a proclamation sanexing the country and although there was not a British soldier in the Republic, the Zulus immediately withdrew In December of the same year a dissatisfied section of the Boers, headed by Presiden Kruger, who was at the time in the pay of the British Government, commenced to stir up strife and systematically assail British rule

Then followed Potchelstroom, Laing's Net and Majuba. As to the origin of the war: I would suggest to those who desire an explanation of the As to the origin of the war: I would suggest to those who desire an explanation of the causes leading up to the present crisis to read the views of Mr. Theo, Schreiner ta brother of the Prime Minister of Cape Colony, as set out in the London weekly edition of the Times, of the 1st inst. page 761. Mr. Schreiner is a member of the leading Dutch family in South Africa, and thoroughly conversant with the past history of the country.

I write as a British colonist and as one who recently travelled over and inquired into the conditions that obtain in Cape Colony, Natal, The Transvaal, Orange Free State, Bhodesia and Fortuguese East Africa.

New York, Dec. 11. New Zealander.

A Word for the Sandwich Mer

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUX - Sir: You will, I as ure, pardon me for calling your attention to the extremely unfortunate position of the "sandwich men" and "banner carriers" who have been com pelled to look for some other lines of work by recent order from Police Headquarters that the desist from their nefarious business. These "sand-wich men" are, for the most part, men who want to earn an honest living and who are physicall unable to do manual labor. They earn a mere pittance as it is, never more than a dollar a day and on the average, only fifty cents. They are a peaceful, inoffensive lot, and I, for one, cannot conceive what harm they do. A. HUMBLEMAN, NEW YORK, Dec. 11.

Music in Fiction.

To THE EDITION OF THE SUN-APP. In this morning's SUN "H. S." deployes the ignorance of music displayed by fiction writers and informs us that the displayed by fiction writers and informs us that the key of 'B flat in German is H.' Up to the present time.' H.' has suggested the key of B natural to me, the key whose signature is five sharps, and the key of B flat has been called plain 'H.'

L. van Boethoven seems also to have labored under the same deliusion. There is no hope for him, for he is dead, but there are others of us who may profit and feel most kindly toward "H. B.'

EXEM YORE, Dec. 11.

gallery, 26: Fifth avenue, and will continue till the first of next week. Mr. Hoeber is an American artist whose contributions to the exhibitions a few years ago were sufficiently regular to keep his work in the eye of the public, but of late nothing more than an occasional canvas at the Lotos Club or some in some collection about to change hands under the hammer of the auctioneer has represented him in the passing events of the art seasons The pictures now on view give proof that he has not lost ground in the interval, and, in several instances, show that his work has become more forceful and more sympathetic. Thus "An Essex Valley" (No. 3), with its truthful observation of the gradations in tint of summer greens, its agreeably toned sky and harmony, both in line and color, of the composition, is a picture of genuine merit with much to recommend it as sincere painting of landscape. "Autumn" (No. 1), a large canvas. is very good in color. If not entirely convincing in the drawing of the numerous tree trunks, and "The September Moon" (No.1), also a large canvas, depicts a poetic evening effect with a great deal of sentiment and with competent handling of broad masses of harmonious color though it is probable that the picture would gain in unity if the still water in the foreground were considerably lighter in value, for t should reflect the brilliant warm tints of the sky. Among the other pictures there are two three small compositions with autumn effects, such as "October Woodland" (No. 12) that are notable for attractive color harmonie and several others such as "Eventide" (No. 5) and "A Tidewater Stream" (No. 8) that show clover treatment in general and some excellent work in the painting of the skies. "Back from the Beach" (No. 6), a canvas of medium size, is one of the most complete and satisfying pictures in the exhibition.

Landscapes by Arthur Hocher.

An interesting exhibition of seventeen land

scapes by Arthur Hoeber is open at the Tooth

TREASURES OF MEXICAN HALL.

They Were Opened to View at the Museum of Natural History Yesterday.

Mexico's by-gone civilization is represented in the Mexican Hall on the fourth floor of the American Museum of Natural History, which was thrown open for a press view yesterday The collection is the most complet portant in the world for the study of the ancient civilization of Mexico and Central America. I comprises fac-simile casts of scores of important sculptures and hieroglyphs, the originals of which, in most cases, still lie in the depths of tropical jungles or amidst the ruins of ancient temples in cities that have been for centuries dead. Besides these fac-similes there are a number of original hieroglyphic tablets and a large collection of utensils and ornamenta, Nearly all of the sculptures and utensils represent either the lost Maya civilization or the still older Nahuatl culture.

The most striking single object is the great "Calendar stone," which is considered by archeologists to be the finest extant example of ancient Mexican stone sculpture. It is a circle, about ten feet in diameter, and the segments representing divisions of the year are curiously and beautifully sculptured. The restoration of the "Temple of the Creas," with its quaint, mysterious carvings is also meet interesting. Massive stone animals abound, and there are some human statues, including a huge representation in white and buff stone of Chemool and a particularly hideous flower god. The collection is the result of the Lorillard explorations and of the researches of Dr. and Mrs. Le Plongeon and others. Many of the finest specimens of pottery, ornaments and implements are gifts from the Puke of Loubat. Many members of the Museum were present yesterday. of ancient Mexican stone sculpture. It is a

TO BEAUTIFY THE BRONX.

One of the Projects of the Tree-Planting Association of New York City.

The Tree-Planting Association of New York city held its annual meeting yesterday afternoon in the Merchant's Club, 348 Broadway. All of the officers were redlected except Secretary John Y. Culyer, who has found it impossible to perform the duties of the office without neglecting his personal affairs. Dr. J. D. Emmet was selected as his successor. Mr. Culver will remain the consulting and advisor architect and engineer of the association, which has found its field largely extended since municipal consolidation went into effect, During the past year many citizens of Rich and and The Bronx have consulted the association on the best means to be taken to preserve the trees which are found in the outlying sections. It is the intention of the association to do everything in its power to preserve these rees, and an appeal may be made to the Legislature for a law to prevent their destruction. The map of the upper part of The Bronx shows that if the streets already laid out are fine woodland will be destroyed. One part of the association's plan is to make ar fort to change the maps, so that the streets in he upper part of the borough shall not run

effort to change the maps, so that the streets in the upper part of the borough shall not run as they do downtown.

It is believed that by the application of approved principles of landscape engineering the upper part of The Bronx can be made as beautiful as some of the suburban districts around London and Paris. During the past year the association has set out 2,000 trees. Its membership is about two hundred, and the financial statement shows that its treasury is in a healthy condition.

Facts From the "Congressional Directory."

From the Chicago Record. There are some queer facts in the "Congressions Directory" this year, as usual. Every member of Co gress furnishes a sketch of his own life and describes himself as he would like to have others see him.

Willis Brewer of Alabama says in his autobiography that he "has been a journalist, has practised law, has written books and is now a planter. James K. Jones of Arkansas, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, says be "was a private soldier during the late unpleasantness, on the losing

James M. Robinson of Fort Wayne was a newsboy Mecenas E. Benton of Missouri says he "was the original offensive partisan removed for permicious activity" while United States Attorney for the west ern district of Missouri. William Connell of Pennsylvania worked in the

mines when he was a young man, but is now the president of a bank. James W. Ryan of Pennsylvania says he used to be a mule driver. Mr. Noonan of Chicago gives a picturesque vista of his past career, and says that "during the years 1893 and 1894 Mr. Noonan's modesty was the subject of newspaper comment, as he held three offices at the same time-vir., State Senator, Colonel and

Park Attorney, and was a candidate for Congress." Court Interrupted by an Owl. From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

MUNCIR. Ind., Dec. 8 .- A large screech owl flex through a window into the Circuit Court room this evening and stopped proceedings. It flew straight for Miss Maud Pugh, the Writing Clerk, who screamed and fied. The session at once broke up, and the jurors and bailiff, L. E. Starr, started to catch the parors and committee that in doing so was viciously bird. Starr caught it, but in doing so was viciously clawed on the hands. Other persons were also clawed. Several articles thrown at the owl by persons fearing an attack went flying helter-skelter and added to the confusion. Judge Leffler adjourned court until to-morrow morning.

Reformer Reed Owns Up. From the Cleveland Plain Dealer,

"How do you do, Mr. Speaker?" said Representativ McClellan of New York to Tom Reed the other day. "I am not Mr. Speaker any longer," drawled Reed Then how do you do, Mr. Reed, and what do yo hink of politica?"

"I don't think of politics," he replied in his lary coice. "I am a reformer now, and reformers don't think of anything except making money." Fast Railroading in the South.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Bavannan, Ga., Dec. 8. - The Southern Railway smashed the world's record to-day in running seventy-four miles an hour over its new roadbebetween Columbia and this city. The air private cars were as heavy as the ordinary passenger train of nine coaches, but with all the weight, and strain and speed, the rear car rode smoothly, and the real oar always swings and jerks more than any other

Chicago's Longest Street. From the Chicago Tribune.

Western avenue, with its twenty-two miles of ength wishin the city, is the longest street in Chicago. It is also, as a consequence, the longest cipal highway in America, and probably in the

NATURE CAN TAKE CARE OF TRUSTS.

Testimony of John R. Dos Passos Before

the Industrial Come WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Testimony was heard by the Industrial Commission to-day from John B. Dos Passos of New York, author of several works on corporation law. His chief statements were that most American legislation intended to regulate commerce and the growth of corporations had proved a decided evil and that natural laws of themselves are sufficient to prevent the over-development of

corporation powers and influence. Mr. Dos Passos described the trust as an economic development, and held aggregated capital to be the necessary and natural hand-maid of advancing civilization. "We could never have reached the advanced condition in which we find ourselves to-day." he said, unless it had grown out of the conditions and instrumentalities in the form of aggregated wealth. The natural laws of commerce afford a sufficient barrier to protect the public from monopolies. Leave the laws of nature alone and they will take care of commercial condi-

Laws intended to guard the small dealer, to protect the smaller operator in the commercial field have for the most part proved alogether ineffective, he said. The Sherman Anti-Trust law, the laws enacted after New York city's binck Friday and, except for conservative administration, the Interstate Commerce law, are all examples of this. Instead of passing the Interstate Commerce law, Congress should have had a commission of in

Congress should have had a commission of inquiry appointed to inquire into the needs and interests of transportation and railroad interests. Then the country might have been saved the most remarkable legislation ever enacted by any legislative body. That law might have proved a great disaster to the corporate interests of the United States.

"Most of our railroads except such as were aided by the Government, were constructed with English capital," he said. "The greatest risk attended their construction and so the projectors had great difficulty in disposing of their securities. In some instances common stock was given with the preferred stock paid for and bonds were sold for whatever they would bring. Of course enough money had to be raised to build the lines. The consequence was that those securities to-day often represent more on their face value than the road is worth. This, I think, is the secret of the over capitalization so much heard about to-day."

POSTAL CONSOLIDATION HERE.

Senator Platt Introduces a Bill for a Net Building to Cost \$2.500,000.

WARHINGTON, Dec. 12.-Senator Platt of New York introduced in the Senate to-day a bill to provide for the erection of a Post Office in the city of New York. It directs the acquisition by purchase or condemnation of a site to be chosen by the Postmaster-General and the Postmaster of New York. The bill carries an appropriation of \$2,500,000 for the site and building, but no part of that sum, except what is necessary for preliminary examination, is to be expended until the title for the site is vested in the United States and the State of New York has ceded jurisdiction over it. The bill was referred to the Committe on Publie Buildings and Grounds.

Senator Plats also introduced a bill authorizing the consolidation of the independent Post Offices in the boroughs of Manhattan, The Bronx, Richmond, Brooklyn and Queens, New

Pronx, Richmond, Brooklyn and Queens, New York, with the Post Office at New York. It appropriates \$125,000 for use in the present fiscal year for the employment of cierks, employees and carriers, and the establishment of sub-stations, canceling machines, supplies, &c., and \$46,387 for the purchase and erection of letter box posts or pedestals and special package and street letter boxes.

Similar bills were introduced in the House by Representative Cummings. First Assistant Postmaster-General Heath said to-day that the original plan of those who favored the New York city consolidation was to make the appropriation for New York a part of a general bill which would provide for consolidation of post offices in other cities. By this means he thought to obtain for the bill the support of Congressmen who planned to unite several offices in their home cities. It was found, however, that such a measure would have to be referred to two committees and would be delayed probably several months. Mr. Cummings felt that this measure was strong enough to pass without any aid from ridera. It was therefore arranged that the bill should concern the New York city office only.

From the Ruston Record. BANGOR, Me., Dec. D.-A statement just saued by the Surveyor-General of the port of Bangor shows a wonderful increase this year in the lumber trade of the Penobscot River. From Jan. 1 to Dec. 1 there was surveyed at the port of Bangor, which includes the whole of Penobecot county. 174.012.800 feet of lumber of all kinds, and it is estimated that the survey for December will add 4,000,000 feet to

survey for December will aid 4,000,000 feet to this amount, making the year's total 178,012,-809 feet, the largest survey, with the exception of that of 18-0, since 1872. The excessover 1888 is nearly 34,000,000 feet.

There also has been a surprising rise in prices. Logs that sold last year from \$0 to \$11 per M brought \$11.50 to \$14,50 this year, while spruce lumber that sold in 1888 at \$11.50 to \$14,50 has been in great demand this year at \$15 to \$22 per M.

There are few logs and little or no lumber left here to winter, the river being practically swept bars for the first time in twenty-live years. An army of men is now in the woods, and all over the State the log cut will be immense. On the Penobscot alone there will be a cut of 188,000,000 to 200,000,000 feet, and on the Kennebec about 150,000,000 feet.

JEWISH IMMIGRANTS. Report Upon the State of the Jews All Ove

the World. From the Philade/phia Public Ledger.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Association of Jewish Immigrants was held last evening. President Levy's report placed emphasis upon the general i crease in immigration. Of the 312,000 immigrants to this country, representing an increase of 86 per cent, over the figures of the preceding year Jewish contingent was 37,000, an increase of 82.1 per cent.

A large proportion of the Jewish immigrants ame from Russia, where, however, the persecu tions to which the Jews were subjected were being less rigorously enforced than formerly. The ferment infused into the European social body by the Dreyfus affair appeared to have had a clarifying effect, even the Procurator of the Bussian Holy Synod having in a recent interview disayowed anti-Semitic sentiments. The actual storm centre of Slavic auti-Semitism had moved over the border from Russia to Austria and Roumania, and in Bo hemia the condition of affairs was described as gravely foreboding. In Vienna the fover of antisemitism had passed its critical stage. This has been, in part, due to the disclosure of colossal frauds in the administration of the city finances by num erous leaders of the anti-Semite majority. many and France the conditions were still more

favorable. Turning to the subject of Jewish colonization, Mr. Levy said that the movement to colonize Jews in Palestine had been stemmed by the interference of the Turkish Government. Jewish colonies had been established in Cyprus, and the De Hirsch colonies Argentine were showing unmistakable signs of progress. Of the New Jersey colonies, the one at Woodbine, under the fostering care of the American De Hirsch Fund trustees, was growing in importance, and left no doubt as to its ultimately suesaful establishment. The other colonies at Alliauce, Norma, Carmel and Rosenhayn had passed the problematic stage and gave promise o An election for officers to serve during the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, Louis Edward Levy; Vice-President, S. Kaufman; Treasurer, samuel B. Fels; Secretary, Charles Hoffman,

The Stout Old Lady and the Man. From the Chicago Times Herald.

From the Change Times Heraid.
He rushed into the car—
The crowded car—and ere
The stout old lady who
had dropped her fare
Recovered it he took the only seat
That had been vacant there.
She grabbed a strap and stood
Refore him while
The car lurched on and on .
Mile after mile,
the looked down at him and
He gazed away;
He sat, she had to stand—
That's more to say.

The acane has changed, A maidant

The scene has changed: A maiden fair Plays lightly on a sweet guitar: Her chesis are red and on her breast A bunch of fragrant roses are. He comes at last; she greets him and Then leads him where. Her mamma waits, half buried in reasy chair. sout old lady glances up, bows and then They both remember how and wher they met before!—

POLITICAL NOTES.

The only vacancy in the Fifty-sixth House of Rep. resentatives is in the Seventh Congressional district of Kentucky, embracing the counties of Bourbon, Fayette, Pranklin, Henry, Oldham, Owen, Scott and Woodford. This district was represented in the Fifty-fifth Congress by Evan E. Settle of Owenton, who defeated W. C. P. Breckinridge, Fusionist, in 1896, the vote being Settle, 18,826, and Breckin-ridge, who was supported by the Bepublicans and the Gold Democrats, 17,019. In 1898 Mr. Settle re-ceived 18,000 vot a and his Republican competitor a 100. The Seventh Kentucky district is known as the Blue Grass district of that State.

The success of the Sheehan faction at the Septem per primaries of the Tammany Hall organization in the Ninth district was evidently not conclusive, for there has been no lack of preparations on the of the Goodwin men to resume the fight on the same lines next year.

According to the statement of some of the Baltimore newspapers the Democrats of the Eastern Shore are prouder than ever over the mention of Col. John Walter Smith, Governor-elect and Congressman, as a possible Presidential candidate. It is the opinion of these Eastern Shore Democrats that ex-Gov. E. E. Jackson of Wicomico county will receive the Democratic nomination for Congress in the First district to succeed Col. Smith. State 8 ter Applegarth, of Dorchester county, will also be a candidate.

The two most expensive departments of the unicipal government of New York are the Board of Education and the Police Department. The pub lic burdens of one have been largely added to by the Abearn bill; the increase of the number of policemen now proposed would in like manner add to the expense of the other. Collectively they cost \$25,000,000 a Fear.

It is remarked as an unusual feature of the mem bership of the Assembly-elect that fifty-five of the ninety-three kepublicans in the lower house of the Legislature last year have been re-elected, and that practically all the members of the majority who were on important committees have been re-elected the new and inexperienced though ambitious legis lators. On the Democratic side, the number veteram members is smaller than it has been for many years.

Complete returns as officially canvassed of the Maryland election, show the majority in favor of John Walter Smith, the successful Democratic can didate for Governor, to have been in excess of 6.000. One of his competitors was the nomines of the Union Reform party, the advocate of referendum system in American politics. The vote polled by him, however, was insignificant,

Only four of the counties in New Jersey gave Democratic majorities at the recent legislative elections Hudson, which includes Jersey City; Hunterdon, which includes Flemington; Sussex, which is the most northerly county of New Jersey, and Warren, which is on the Pennsylvania border and the chief city of which is Belvidere.

Of the city of Philadelphia it is said that it has had a larger number of Congressmen of extended periods of consecutive service than any other locality in the country. It is pointed out that Congress men Kelley and O'Netli each served twenty-nine years, Congressman Sandall twenty-seven and Con greenman Harmer twenty-six. One of the present Congressmen, Gen. Bingham, has a record of ter terms or twenty years of consecutive service. Gen. Bingham is a native of Philadelphia, and it is a peculiarity of Philadelphia Congressmen that they are, usually, natives of that city. An exception is William McAleer, the Representative of the Third Tyrone, Ireland.

David Bremner Henderson, the new Speaker of he House of Representatives, is the first Congressman representing a vertible western district to coupy that office. He is the first trans-Mississippi Speaker. In the early Congresses the Eastern of Atlantic seaboard States furnished the Speakers until the election of Henry Clay of Kentucky in 1811. He held the office in five Congresses 1845 John W. Davis of Indiana, a Western man, was chosen. When, in 1875, the Democrats recovered control of Congress, they went to Indiana for a Speaker in Michael C. Kerr of New Albany, and, when six years later, the Republicans regained control of Congress they chosed. W. Keifer of Ohio. With these exceptions, the Speaker of the House of Representatives has been chosen either from the New England States or the South. Mr. Henderson hads from Dubuque, Ia. Senator Allison is from

These are the general ediministration estimates for 1900 in the departments named: Public Buildings, Lighting and Supplies, \$25,200; Highways, \$22,000; Sewers, \$25,000, Bridges, \$45,040 and Water Supply, \$17,000.

At the recent Chicago meeting of the Executive Committee of the Democratic National Committee there was the customary estentations lannching of Mayor Harrison's gubernatorial boom. Ex-Congressman Buck Hinrichson expressed himself as heartily in accord with the movement and gave it as his opinion that the Mayor would accept the nomination if it were proffered to him. Others suggested Mayor se a candidate for United States Senator in place of W. E. Mason. Mayor Harrison is always a candida for some Democratic honors.

Mayor Van Wyck's nephew resumes on Jan. 1 his place in the office of the District Attorney of King county. John Gillingham Ashbridge, brother of Mayor Ashbridge of Philadelphia, has been appointed a tipetaff in the Court of Common Piece of that city.

New Jersey has suffered much during the past ten years from the death of prominent and distinguished public men, the list including Vice-President Hobart, former Governors Bedle, Green and Abbet lenstor McPherson, Congressmen Halsey and Phelps and Judges Beasley, Runyon and Cattell.

Two happenings in Pennsylvania: A Swede has een elected District Attorney of Warren county. Through an error the jury list in Clearfield counts has been declared invalid, and all the law cases in court for December have been postponed until Feb-ruary in consequence. One of the Clearfield Jury oners has disappeared and is supposed to be hiding in Philadelphia.

Foreign Notes of Beal Interest. A new glass roof is being put on the Sydenham

Crystal Palace at a cost of \$40,000. A soft and boneless tail, two and a quarter inches long, cut from an eleven-week shild in Elbing, was shown by Dr. Simon of that town to the Berlin Ar thropological Society on Nov. 18, Prof. Virchow called it "a splendid specimen."

Russia is getting ready to build a new railway from

the south of European Bussia to Turkestan. One line proposed goes from Orenburg through the Turrai country and Turkestan to Tashkend. Another starts at Alexandrowsk on the Caspian and follows the left bank of the Amu Daria to Tchardshui or the trans-Caspian railroad. Col. Wingate's smashing of the Mahdi is followed

at once by the announcement of weekly excursions to Khartum by the tourist agency that controls the Halfa on Thursday evenings and reach Khartum Satarday morning. In case the hotel there is not ready, passengers will be lodged on a steamer.

Francisque Sarcey's library brought pretty low prices at the sale in Paris, the total receipts being \$75,000 for the 60,000 volumes. The best prices were obtained for illustrated éditions de luxe. Voltaire's "Zadig," with pictures by Garnier, Rops and Robaudi, brought \$216; Diderot's "Jacques is Faiatiste," with Maurice Lelon's illustrations, \$41; Theo-phile Gautier's "Mademoiselle de Maupin," with Tondoute's pictures. \$64; Standhal's "Le Char ireuse de Parme," \$54; Guy de Maupassant's "Contes Choises." \$74; Baudelaire's "Fleurs du Mal." \$78. Many three-franc paper-covered books brought forty, fifty or sixty francs on account of the author's autograph inscribed on them. About's "Marriages de Paris" brought \$18 and Rostand's "Les Musardises," \$31.

One of the famous beauties of the Second Empire the Conness de Castiglione, died recently in Paris. She came from Italy and at court attracted the attentions of Napoleon III, and the jealousy of Eugenie. At a costume ball in the Tuileries, she outdid anything that Paris had seen in scantiness of dress by appearing as Salammbô, clad in her hair, which reached her feet, her jewels and very little elee. When she came before the Empress, Eugenia declared that she must feel cold, insisted on her wrapping herself in a mantle, and never invited her again. At that time, Paul Vaudry painted her fullength nude portrait. This she tore to pieces when her beauty began to fade. She then shut herself up or more than twenty years in her house in the Rus de la Paix, near the Place Vendome, where the shutters were closed to exclude daylight, and where her la were brought from a restaurant, precautions being taken that the waiter should not see hes.